

STRANGE HILL HIGH:
INVASION OF THE TEMPLETONS

SHH-S2E05-SHOOTING DRAFT

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24/4/13

1 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY 1

As the opening bars of Strauss' '**ALSO SPRACH ZARATHUSTRA**' belt out, a mysterious Astronaut stomps down the corridor in slow motion. His ominous **BREATHING** punctuates his **FOOTSTEPS** as he clutches two **SPARKING, HISSING**, super-charged potatoes.

2 INT. SCIENCE FAIR - GYM - MEANWHILE 2

Abercrombie's mouth fills the frame.

1 MR ABERCROMBIE
 Tanner! 1

2 MITCHELL
 What? 2

The gym is set up so the kids can show their science projects. A banner hanging across the ceiling reads "SCIENCE FAIR" with symbols of an exploding beaker and someone getting zapped with electricity on either side.

Donald touches his beaker shaped project and instantly gets zapped with electricity.

Abercrombie - wearing a "Judge" ribbon and holding a clipboard - stands next to Mitchell. Mitchell's in front of an empty table.

3 MR ABERCROMBIE
 Where's your science project? 3

4 MITCHELL
 (To Becky)
 Where's my science project? 4

5 BECKY
 What? But I haven't...? 5

6 MR ABERCROMBIE
 If you haven't done it, you're in
 considerable trouble. 6

7 MITCHELL
 (To Becky)
 If you haven't done it, you're in
 considerable trouble. 7

8 BECKY
 But... I've done my own! It's
 whether the school tarantula has
 the intelligence to select its own
 party hat or if it needs guidance
 and encouragement. 8

She points to a spider in a tank (from the "Teacher's Pet" episode) who stands next to three different tiny party hats.

9 BECKY (CONT'D)
(to spider, cute voice)
You can do it, Taranny-tula! Which 9
do you want to wear for Spider
Christmas?

10 MITCHELL
(to Abercrombie)
You see what I have to put up with? 10

11 MR ABERCROMBIE
Yes, I see. She really should- 11
(realizing)

12 Tanner!!! You have 3 seconds to 12
produce a science project or that's
an "F" for Science.

13 MITCHELL
Isn't it "S" for "Science"? Are 13
you sure you're qualified to judge
this?

14 ABERCROMBIE
Tanner, your sarcasm is really 14
testing my--

15 MITCHELL
Oo, that gives me an idea. Shut up 15
for one second.

Mitchell looks around desperately for something... anything!
He spies the clock on the wall.

16 MITCHELL (CONT'D)
Ah ha! 16

3 **INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS** 3

More **STRAUSS**, more **STOMPING**. Matthews **YELPS** as he's steam-
rolled by the astronaut.

4 **INT. SCIENCE FAIR - GYM - CONTINUOUS** 4

Abercrombie now has the clock hanging around his neck. The
clock has a hand-drawn sign taped across its face that reads
"SARCASTATRON 3000". The 2pm to 3pm range is coloured in red
like a gauge. Mitchell now holds the clipboard.

17 MR ABERCROMBIE
(bubbling rage)
So you're telling me your science 17
project is a device that examines
the 'effect of sarcasm' on others?

18 MITCHELL 18
The Sarcastatron 3000 is the result
of extensive research and... by the
way I reeeally like what you've
done with you hair this morning.

19 MR ABERCROMBIE 19
Thank you, I use a special shampoo
that tingles when--
(realizing)
20 Tanner! You're being sarcastic, 20
aren't you?

Abercrombie fumes. PULL OUT to see the clock hands are now
in the red range. Mitchell writes on his "checklist".

21 MITCHELL 21
(chuckles, then)
Abercrombie - effect of sarcasm
equals rage. This made-up science
project is fun. Let's try it on
someone else.

5 **INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS** 5

The astronaut slips and barges through the gym door into...

6 **INT. SCIENCE FAIR - GYM - CONTINUOUS** 6

The astronaut opens his visor... it's Templeton.

22 TEMPLETON 22
Greetings my fellow carbon based
bipedal lifeforms.

PAN DOWN to see Mitchell has hung his 'Sarcastatron' on
Templeton's chest.

23 MITCHELL 23
(sarcastic)
Templeton, I really like the new
outfit.

24 TEMPLETON 24
Thank you. It's a spacesuit.

25 MITCHELL 25
(sarcastic)
You don't look like a geek
whatsoever.

26 BECKY 26
(Outraged)
Mitchell!

27 TEMPLETON 27
Have I missed something?

Mitchell looks at the 'Sarcastatron'. It's not registering.

28 MITCHELL 28
My sarcasm's having no effect.
I'll have to ramp it up.

29 (sarcastic) 29
And where are you going in this
fabulous "spacesuit"? I certainly
hope it's outer space as that would
be a very reasonable place for a
boy holding two electrified
potatoes to go.

30 TEMPLETON 30
I will go boldly - and with correct
grammar - where no one has been
before. I've perfected a potato
powered propulsion projectile...

Templeton's potatoes **FIZZ** and **SPARK**.

31 TEMPLETON (CONT'D) 31
...and will, as you correctly
theorised, blast off into Cosmos to
make first contact with aliens and
possibly a Space Yeti.

32 MITCHELL 32
(sarcastic)
That's the most sensible plan ever
to come from the field of science.

33 TEMPLETON 33
Thanks. I appreciate the support.

34 BECKY 34
Templeton, he was being sarcastic.

35 TEMPLETON 35
'Sarcastic', sounds Greek? None
for me, I never eat before
spaceflight.

Mitchell is taking notes.

36 MITCHELL 36
"Subject does not respond to normal
sarcasm. Will try increasing to
dangerous levels." Becks, you may
want to step back.

37 (to Templeton, sarcastic) 37
Templeton, your project may be one
of the greatest scientific
endeavors undertaken by intelligent
man.

38 TEMPLETON
 (starts to fume)
38 "May be--"?!! "One of--"?!! You 38
 underestimate me! You don't know
 me at all!

Templeton's getting upset and waving his hands frantically.

39 TEMPLETON (CONT'D)
39 Nobody here understands me! Not 39
 even me!

Templeton **STOMPS** off.

40 MITCHELL
 (writing down results)
40 "While unexpected, subject's 40
 response was most enjoyable--"

41 BECKY
41 Mitchell! You've hurt his 41
 feelings...probably.

42 MITCHELL
42 Fine. But your logic has no place 42
 at a science fair.

They run after Templeton.

7 **EXT. PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS** 7

Mitchell and Becky run into the playground.

43 MITCHELL
43 Temp, wait! I want to apolo-whaa?!! 43

They are confronted by the site of Templeton mounting a makeshift rocket ship (couple of dustbins with a pointy top)- smoke, dry-ice, **NASA CAPCOM SQUAWKS**, the works.

44 BECKY/MITCHELL
44 Whooooaa! 44

45 TEMPLETON
45 Goodbye cruel, unaccepting world. 45
 Hello potentially hostile, blood
 thirsty extraterrestrials.

46 MITCHELL
46 Temp, please! I was only being a 46
 jerk in the name of science!

Templeton closes his visor, enters the capsule and **IGNITES** his potatoes as Becky and Mitchell look on awestruck. They are joined by Abercrombie and a couple of the kids.

ABERCROMBIE

47 Tanner! What's weird boy doing? 47

MITCHELL
48 Going to meet aliens. 48

ABERCROMBIE

49 Oh? Hang on, are you being 49
 sarcastic again?

Loads of smoke and **ROCKETS ROARING** and then silence. As the smoke clears, the kids look up to the sky.

BISHOP

50 He's slipped the surly bonds of earth and touched the heavens,
innit!

50

51 MURDOCH I'll be. A science fair project 51
that actually worked.

BECKY
(tearful)
52 Templeton's gone? 52

MITCHELL
(in awe)
53 Temps really did it! He's a real life astronaut! 53

They all peer up towards the heavens. Beat.

54 TEMPLETON (O.S.)
Actually I'm down here. 54

As the smoke clears, we see a deep hole's been blasted away.

8 I/E. PREHISTORIC HOLE/CAVE 8

Mitchell, Becky and others look into the hole. Templeton's rocket has sent him down through the ground rather than up.

TEMPLETON

55 Perhaps the polarity of potato 55
 powered propulsion presumes
 preponderance to positive?

MITCHELL
56 Easy for you to say. 56

ABERCROMBIE

57 Thank heavens. For a moment, I 57
 thought I might have to give a
 student an 'A'. Weird boy, clean
 this mess up. Everyone else back
 to class.

MURDOCH

(shooing them away)

58 That's right - nothing to see here 58
 but a giant hole blasted by a
 potato-powered rocket ship.

Moans from the kids as they mooch off. Mitchell and Becky
continue to peer into the hole.

TEMPLETON

59 If it's alright with you I'll stay 59
 here until my disappointment wears
 off.

BECKY

60 If you're not coming out. We're 60
 coming in.

MITCHELL

61 And why would "we" do that? 61

BECKY

62 The alternative is going back to 62
 the science fair.

MITCHELL

63 Look out below! 63

Mitchell jumps in.

9 **INT. PREHISTORIC HOLE/CAVE - DAY** 9

Mitchell and Becky stand with a chagrined Templeton next to a
pile of debris that was his rocket. He clutches one of the
surviving potatoes that still **HISSES** lethargically.

TEMPLETON

(to potato)

64 What good are you?! You're a 64
 disappointment as a potato!

(beat)

65 Sorry, Spud. It's my fault for 65
 aiming too high.

He **SIGHS** and puts the potato in his pocket.

BECKY

66 You might not have blasted into the 66
 cosmos but you've discovered a
 lovely... hole.

Mitchell notices Lascaux-type cave paintings which look like
a 'spaced up' Templeton holding sparking potatoes.

MITCHELL

67 Has Gazza been down here? 67

68 BECKY
No, these look ancient. Like well 68
before the 1990's!
(peers carefully)
69 I wonder what secret messages are 69
hidden in these eerie, impossible-
to-decipher signs?

Track slightly to the right to reveal a big notice reading:

70 MITCHELL 70
"PRESS BUTTON TO ENTER DOOR"
Templeton presses the button. The cavern wall **SLIDES OPEN** to
reveal an ancient spaceship cockpit... which Templeton falls
into face first and out of frame.

71 TEMPLETON 71
(falling sound, pained impact)

72 BECKY/MITCHELL 72
Wooooow!

Templeton pops back into frame.

73 TEMPLETON 73
The search for aliens involves a
lot more falling into holes than I
anticipated.

10 INT. ANCIENT SPACESHIP COCKPIT - DAY 10

It's 50/60's kitsch with a bit of HR Giger. It's been left
for billions-ish of years, "Quartermass & The Pit"-style.
Mitchell pulls down some dusty cobwebs.

74 MITCHELL 74
Boy, this place is as dusty as Mr
Balding.

Becky wipes dust off some glass and reveals a three person
Cryo-tube. Inside we can barely see three frozen forms. It
has a clock counting down.

BECKY/MITCHELL/TEMPLETON
(gasp)

75 TEMPLETON 75
Aliens!!! Locked in suspension for
billions of years!

76 BECKY 76
I never thought I'd say this but...
I think Templeton is right!!

77 TEMPLETON 77
People aren't always saying that?

Mitchell stumbles across a skeleton in the pilot seat that looks surprisingly like Templeton.

	MITCHELL	
78	Er, Temps? Do you have a really, really, really old uncle who went missing?	78
	TEMPLETON	
79	My uncle once went missing, but we found him inside the sofa bed. (sees skeleton)	79
80	That's an alien! See the giant skull? You doubted me, but	80
81	I told you I'd discover aliens! Ha!	81

The ship **ECHOES** with Templeton's "Ha!" Suddenly, everything starts to **POWER UP** - flashing lights, **BUZZERS**, the lot. A Max-Headroom version of Templeton appears on a video screen.

	DIGITAL TEMPLETON	
82	Voice recognised! Emergency! Emergency! Abandon Ship!	82
	BECKY	
83	He looks familiar.	83

The whole chamber begins to **RUMBLE** and shake.

	TEMPLETON	
84	I know this is usually something you'd say Mitchell, but I think in this case I'll take the lead. RUN!!	84

11	<u>INT. SCIENCE FAIR - GYM - DAY</u>	11
	Abercrombie is holding a trophy.	

	ABERCROMBIE	
85	...And that's why today we celebrate Science's future movers and shakers.	85

The ground starts to **RUMBLE** and vibrate.

	STEPHANIE	
86	Um, like are we moving and shaking?	86

12	<u>EXT. PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS</u>	12
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Abercrombie and the class spill onto the playground just as our trio climb out of the hole.

	MR ABERCROMBIE	
87	Tanner! What's going on here?!	87

MITCHELL
88 Nothing... 88

There's a giant **EXPLOSION** behind our trio which Mitchell tries to nonchalantly ignore followed by a flashing light and **THEREMINNY LIFTY MUSIC**.

MITCHELL (CONT'D)

89 ...much? 89

Abercrombie goes off on a rant focussed on our trio but unbeknownst to him a flying saucer alien armada is forming in the skies behind him. Our three - plus other kids - try and attract his attention.

ABERCROMBIE

90 If I find out there's something 90
strange going on here, Tanner--

91 MATTHEWS
Er, Mr Abercrombie? 91

ABERCROMBIE

92 Do not interrupt me when I'm ranting! Now, as I was saying- 92

BISHOP
93 Yo, Mr Abercrombie? 93

ABERCROMBIE

94 Bishop! Would you like it if I 94
interrupted you when-

95 TYSON
But Mr Abercrombie! 95

ABERCROMBIE
(exasperated yelp)
96 What is it with this outbreak of 96
rudeness! I blame you, Tanner!

MITCHELL
97 I suppose that's my fault too?! 97

Abercrombie finally turns to see what Mitchell's pointing at. The school is dwarfed by an armada of flying saucers. Abercrombie turns back without being fazed.

ABERCROMBIE

98 This is exactly what I'm talking about! 98

Abercrombie does an immediate double take and panics.

ABERCROMBIE (CONT'D)

99 Flying saucers! 99

Abercrombie COWERS behind the children as the flying saucers loom.

ABERCROMBIE (CONT'D)

100 I'm too important to be abducted! 100

The children are lighter, take
them!

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

13 EXT. PLAYGROUND - DAY 13

The flying saucers loom closer, hovering over the students and teachers. Matthews runs to the foreground.

MATTHEWS

(bravely)

101 Fellow students and teachers! 101

Follow my lead!

(beat, then panic sounds)

EVERYONE ELSE

102 (panic sounds) 102

The yard erupts in 50's-sci-fi-movie-style panic and mayhem.

MR ABERCROMBIE

103 Okay, which one of you bought a 103
 flying saucer armada to school?

A **DEATH RAY** blasts Abercrombie out of frame. One of the saucers breaks formation and comes into land on the playground. Like "The Day the Earth Stood Still," it flashes lights and booms out a **ULTRA-DEEP BASS SOUND**.

Stephanie looks suspiciously at Croydonia.

STEPHANIE

Eeew.

CROYDONIA

105 What? It was the spaceship, not me! 105

Our trio - in the front of the crowd - are awe-struck. With a **HISS** and lots of smoke, a door opens on the craft. A silhouette emerges.

STUDENTS/TEACHERS
(gasp)

MR ABERCROMBIE
106 I'll handle this. 106
(to alien)
(MORE)

107 MR ABERCROMBIE (CONT'D) 107
I'm Mr Abercrombie, leader of
earth.

108 BISHOP 108
Since when?
(to alien)
109 He's just a headmaster and not a 109
very good one at that, yo.

110 CROYDONIA 110
Yeah, he like totally tried to sell
us out to you.

111 SAMIA 111
He's extremely cowardly.

112 MR ABERCROMBIE 112
Shut up, all of you!
(insulted, to Samia)
113 I've regained my composure. 113

114 SAMIA 114
We'll see about that.

Abercrombie turns back to the alien silhouette.

115 ABERCROMBIE 115
Er, hello there, um, shadowy thing.
I'd like to welcome you to our
planet. Please don't write on the
walls-aAAAGH!

Abercrombie is **ZAPPED** with a ray gun and falls out of frame.

116 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 116
Take me to your leader.

A singed Abercrombie struggles back into frame.

117 MR ABERCROMBIE 117
As I said, that's maaaAGGH!

He's immediate **ZAPPED** and falls out of frame.

118 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 118
Your *real* leader. The one true...

The alien is finally revealed and it's... Templeton? It
certainly looks like him - apart from the 'glam-rock' silver
foil cape and traditional alien garb - and sounds like him.
He's clutching a ray-gun and a GIANT TOME OF A BOOK.

119 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR (CONT'D) 119
...Templeton.

REGAL MUSIC CUE. The Templeton Alien Emperor approaches
Templeton. Simultaneously, they go into full worship mode.

TEMPLETON
Hail to you, leader of the
universe.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
Hail to you, leader of the
universe._

They stop an awkward beat - who's worshipping who? Then...

TEMPLETON
Hail to you, master of all
space, time and potatoes.
(beat)
Except sweet potatoes, which
are gross and should not be
considered potatoes.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
Hail to you, master of all
space, time and potatoes._
(beat)
Except sweet potatoes, which
are gross and should not be
considered potatoes.

TEMPLETON

120 Hang on. I do the worshipping round
 here.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

121 No, I've come to worship you. 121

TEMPLETON
But you're the leader of the
universe.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
But you're the leader of the
universe.

TEMPLETON

122 I can't be the leader of the universe because you obviously are. 122

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

123 You are. I've got an alien fleet 123
 that agrees. Haven't I?

A Templeton voice booms out of every flying saucer.

ALIEN FLEET
124 GET ON WITH IT ALREADY OR WE 124
DESTROY THIS PLANET.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

125 Plus, we've got a giant scary robot 125
 named Gary.

Gary - a giant Gortlike non-moving robot - suddenly appears.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR (CONT'D)

126 What have you got? 126

TEMPLETON

127 Uh, we've got... Tyson? 127

128 TYSON I'd rather not be drawn into this particular matter. 128

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

129 Well then, can we please get on 129
 with our invasion?

130 TEMPLETON
Fine. Let me show you around. 130

Arm in arm, Templeton leads the Alien Emperor into school.

131 TEMPLETON (CONT'D)
So I'm the creator of all things 131
and master of the entire universe.

132 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
Yes. 132

133 TEMPLETON
Hmm, I've always suspected as much. 133

They pass by Mitchell...

134 MITCHELL
(sarcastic)
I think you'll find Templeton is 134
responsible for all sorts of
amazing things on this planet.

135 TEMPLETON/TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
Thank you. 135

As Templeton and his new Alien friend walk away, more and more Templeton Aliens disembark from the ship.

136 MITCHELL
An invasion by aliens who don't 136
respond to sarcasm?

137 (beat)
Noooooooooooo! 137

14 **INT. CORRIDOR BY LOCKERS - DAY** 14

Templeton aliens are all over the school, examining earth things curiously. An alien talks to the twins.

138 MIKI
We call these backpacks. 138

139 (pulls out a candy cane)
We fill them with sweets! 139

140 MIKIKO
Sweets... 140

141 (pulls out ribbons)
...and brightly coloured ribbons! 141

142 MIKI
We'll put these ribbons on your 142
hair!

ANOTHER ANGLE

Another alien is talking to Croydonia and Stephanie.

143 STEPHANIE 143
And like on earth when we see
someone different to us we say
"Ewwwww!" Now you try.

 TEMPLETON ALIEN
 (flatly)
144 Ew. 144

 CROYDONIA
145 No, say it with more disdain, like 145
this person has totally ruined your
day just by existing.

Templeton and the Emperor walk by just as Stephanie,
Croydonia and the alien go into a quick Ewwwww! Fest.

 ALIEN/STEPHANIE/CROYDONIA
146 Ewwwww! 146

 STEPHANIE
147 Good. Now sneer when you say it. 147

 ALIEN/STEPHANIE/CROYDONIA
148 Ewwwww! 148

 CROYDONIA
149 Now like you've just seen them eat 149
something from their nose.

 ALIEN/STEPHANIE/CROYDONIA
150 Ewwwww! 150

On Templeton and the Emperor, who is holding the big book.

 TEMPLETON
151 Your book looks very impressive. 151
Does it contain the sum of all
knowledge in the universe?

 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
 (evasive)
152 Uh, no. It only contains things... 152
that are quite dull. I just carry
it around so I'll know where it is.

 TEMPLETON
153 I understand completely. So let me 153
tell you about earth. It has some
interesting features... Like doors.

They come to a locker door.

 TEMPLETON (CONT'D)
154 Doors open and close. Open. 154
Close. Open. Close.

He opens and closes the door repeatedly.

155 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
Makes perfect sense. 155
 (Whilst leafing through
 book)

156 By the way, how many kilos do you 156
weigh? And do you prefer a side
salad or roasted vegetables?

157 TEMPLETON
I usually only eat beige things. 157

Mitchell and Becky peer over the Emperor's shoulder.

158 MITCHELL
 (reads)
"First baste, then leave to slow 158
cook for forty minutes--"

The Emperor **SLAMS THE BOOK SHUT.**

159 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
Do you mind?! 159

160 MITCHELL
No, do you? 160

161 BECKY
That looked like a recipe! 161

162 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
 (lying quickly)
We have no such things as "recipes" 162
on our planet. And we certainly
don't know how to prepare food.

163 MITCHELL
Then you should meet our school 163
cook. You'd really hit it off.

The Emperor stares at Mitchell and Becky for a beat. Then...

164 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
Come, Templeton. Let us go 164
somewhere where people don't say
silly things.

165 TEMPLETON
 (snooty)
Of course. 165

The Emperor hurries Templeton off. Mitchell turns to Becky.

166 MITCHELL
You know this invasion by aliens 166
who resemble our friend?

167 BECKY
Yeah? 167

168 MITCHELL 168
There's something very strange
about it.

169 BECKY 169
That book!

170 MITCHELL 170
I never thought I'd say this and it
goes against my every instinct,
but... we've got to read that book!

They sneak off, following the Emperor and Templeton.

15 INT. CANTEEN - DAY 15

A banner reads "Welcome, Horrible Invaders". Gary stands guard in the background. Students and assorted Templeton Aliens sit at a long table, covered in a table cloth and laden with food. Templeton and the Emperor are at the head. Abercrombie, relegated to an end place, stands to make a toast.

171 MR ABERCROMBIE 171
 (nervous)
Attention. Heh, heh. I'm not very
good at these things--

172 SAMIA 172
Obviously.

173 MR ABERCROMBIE 173
And I know we got off on the wrong
foot, but any friend of- what is
his name- "Weird Boy?"- well, any
friend of his is-aaAAGGH!

Abercrombie is **ZAPPED** and falls to the floor... where Mitchell and Becky are hidden under the tablecloth sneaking around near the Emperor's feet. They ignore Abercrombie.

174 MITCHELL 174
Now's our chance!

Mitchell reaches for the book, which is on the table but it is swiped up in the Emperor's hand as he starts his speech. (In the following, the Emperor continuously puts the book down to punctuate his speech and each time Mitchell or Becky tries to grab it but are thwarted as it is grabbed up again.)

175 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 175
Humans, listen! For it has been
written: in the beginning, there
was Templeton. And he said "Let
there be potatoes."

Book down, Book up, Mitchell missed swipe.

176 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR (CONT'D) 176
And it was good. Especially with
butter and baco-bits. But lo the
potato has many purposes, unlike
the yam.

177 OTHER ALIENS
 (in unison)
YAMS ARE USELESS! 177

Book down, Book up, Becky missed swipe.

178 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 178
The spud has powered our centuries
long search for our creator.

He puts the book down and Mitchell finally grabs it.

ANGLE ON MITCHELL AND BECKY UNDER THE TABLE

They open the book to the first page.

179 MITCHELL
 (reads)
"How to serve Templeton..." 179

180 BECKY
That could be interpreted in a 180
number of different ways.

181 MITCHELL
 (still reading)
"...as a delicious dish to eat." 181

BACK ABOVE THE TABLE

The Emperor is nattering on.

182 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 182
We searched far and wide for our
creator, double and triple checking
places, and looking again just in
case--

Suddenly, Mitchell and Becky pop up, waving the book.

183 BECKY
 (to everyone)
The alien's book! It's a cookbook! 183

184 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
 (lying)
No, it's not. Now go away. 184

Mitchell reads from the book.

	MITCHELL	
185	"How To Serve Templeton - A Cookbook, featuring Roast Templeton, Templeton Pie, Bangers & Temps, Tempshire Pudding--"	185

BECKY
186 Templeton, they've come to eat you 186
and in a very tasty fashion!!

The other students **GASP**.

STEPHANIE/CROYDONIA/THEIR ALIEN
"FRIEND"

187 Ew! Ewww! Ewwwww! 187

TEMPLETON (O.S.)

188 Pfft, that's ridiculous. 188

ANGLE ON TEMPLETON

He's in a cooking pot (on wheels), being basted by an alien.

TEMPLETON (CONT'D)
(as gravy drips over his
head)
189 What gives you that idea? 189

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

190 Okay, okay, I'm too hungry to lie 190
 anymore. We Templeton Aliens are
 too pure to eat anything not
 Templeton related and what could be
 more Templetony than Templeton.
 We've travelled billions of light
 years and we're hungry and...
 (can't take it any longer,
 waves arms furiously)

191 Pass the hot sauce and dibs on a 191
 leg!

The Emperor lunges for Templeton with a fork. Mitchell pushes the pot out of the way just in time.

MITCHELL
192 No one eats our friend! 192

	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR	
193	You can't stop us.	193
	(into communicator)	
194	Unleash... Gary.	194

Gary's cyclops eye opens to reveal a glowing red death ray. He doesn't move but starts **SHOOTING RAYS** all over the place. The dining hall erupts in panic.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR (CONT'D)

195 That's it, Gary! Shoot randomly! 195

In the midst of the panic, Mitchell and Becky manage to push the big pot with Templeton out of the hall.

16 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

16

They push the pot down the corridor, pursued by Gary, who never actually moves, but just keeps appearing in places. They grab Temp from his pot and duck into a cupboard.

17 INT. INSIDE CUPBOARD - CONTINUOUS

17

It's nearly pitch black - just a bit of a silhouette of our three. They are squashed together in the tiny space.

MITCHELL

196 We've got to think of a plan to
 defeat the aliens! Becky, think of
 a plan.

196

BECKY

197 That would be a lot easier if you
 weren't standing on my foot.

197

MITCHELL

198 That's not me. It's the person
 standing behind us.
 (suddenly)

198

199 The person standing behind us!!

199

Becky flicks on a torch and the light reveals Gary right behind them. **THEREMIN STING.** The torch flicks off.

MITCHELL (CONT'D)

200 Why did you turn it off?

200

BECKY

201 If I can't see him, he might not be
 there.

201

The torch flicks on. **THEREMIN STING.** Same as before.

MITCHELL

202 That's definitely Gary.

202

BECKY

203 I'm going to panic then now.

203

MITCHELL

204 OK. Me too.

204

TEMPLETON

205 I'm not.

205

BECKY

206 Suit yourself.

206

207 MITCHELL/BECKY
AAAAAHHHHHHHHH! 207

18 **INT. CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS** 18

Mitchell, Templeton and Becky fall out of the cupboard. Gary falls like a felled tree on top of them.

208 MITCHELL
Run! 208

19 **INT. PLAYGROUND - LATER** 19

Our trio now sneak around badly disguised as aliens.

209 MITCHELL
So have I nagged you into thinking
of a good plan? 209

210 BECKY
Not quite, but if we look like
Templetons and think like
Templetons, we might be able to
figure out what the Templeton
aliens are going to do. 210

211 TEMPLETON
No, I'm Templeton and even I can't
figure that out. 211

212 MITCHELL
Let's look at this situation
sarcastically: Temps, if you were
you and leading the *most successful*
invasion ever, what would you *not*
want to do? 212

Templeton thinks.

213 TEMPLETON
Well, I wouldn't want to sneak on
to the mothership and transmit a
web of illogicalities leading the
armada to turn on each other and
destroy themselves. 213

214 MITCHELL
Then by the laws of sarcasm, let's
do that. 214

Our three act Templetony as the Emperor walks towards the ship with another alien.

215 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 215
To the mothership to make sure no
one transmits a web of
illogicalities leading the armada
to turn on each other and destroy
themselves.

216 TEMPLETON ALIEN 216
Yes, that's the last thing we'd
want someone to do.

He boards the ship, closely followed by our trio.

20 **INT. FLYING SAUCER - COCKPIT - MOMENTS LATER** 20

Our trio sneak into the cockpit. The Emperor is at the
flight controls, talking into his communicator.

217 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 217
As soon as we have the Creator in
our hands, we will destroy this
planet. Goodbye cruel, unaccepting
world!

218 (evil laugh) 218
Mwuhh-huh-huh!

He indicates a big button that reads "MWUHH-HUH-HUH."
Mitchell, Becky and Templeton exchange worried glances.

219 TEMPLETON 219
(hushed)
I may say stuff like that, but I
always mean it with good
intentions!

220 MITCHELL 220
(hushed)
Now, to confuse the aliens.

221 BECKY 221
(points to communicator)
We need to get hold of his royal
talky thingy!

With the Emperor's back turned, the trio sneak up on him. At
the last second, he whirls around. They jump back.

222 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR 222
Ah-ha! You don't get to be an evil
emperor without perfecting your
sudden twirl.

223 (beat, to Mitchell) 223
Now what do you want?

MITCHELL
(Templeton impression)
224 Your Gooberiness, we're here to, 224
uh, obsessively check the
communicators.

TEMPLETON
(whispering)
225 That doesn't sound anything like 225
me!

The Emperor turns to Becky, suspicious.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
226 And you! You look rather girlish 226
for a Templeton Alien. Girls make
us uncomfortable. What are you
doing here?

BECKY
(Templeton impression)
227 I'm, uh, here because I do not need 227
to be anywhere else.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
228 Makes sense. 228

TEMPLETON
(whispering)
229 That doesn't sound like me either! 229

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
230 And you. Weird looking one. Why 230
are you here?

TEMPLETON
231 I'm here because... 231

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
232 Imposter! 232

TEMPLETON
233 What? 233

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
234 You look and sound nothing like a 234
Templeton!

TEMPLETON
235 But I'm the only real one here! 235
(realizes what he said)
236 Oops. 236

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
237 They're all imposters! Gary Alert! 237

Gary suddenly appears and corners the three.

238	MITCHELL	238
	Erg! Gary's so annoying!	
	Gary's cyclops eye opens up and his eye begins to glow. This looks like the end!	
239	TEMPLETON	239
	WAIT!	
	Everyone stops.	
240	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR	240
	Why?	
241	TEMPLETON	241
	Because I shouted 'wait' quite loudly. Is it time for us to go to space yet?	
	Templeton removes his cloak. The Emperor immediately recognizes him and bows.	
242	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR	242
	The Creator! Praise him! Now grab him!	
	Other aliens rush in and grab the three.	
243	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR (CONT'D)	243
	Now let's get out of here.	
244	(into communicator)	244
	Prepare to destroy this planet, er, um... what's it called?	
245	MITCHELL	245
	Mybuttnow.	
246	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR	246
	Prepare to wipe out Mybuttnow!	
247	BECKY	247
	Mitchell!	
248	MITCHELL	248
	What? If earth's gonna be destroyed, we might as well have a laugh about it.	

21 EXT. PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS 21

The airlock of the saucer **SLAMS SHUT**. The saucer **POWERS UP**. A panicky Mitchell and Becky have their faces pressed up against the window of the cockpit. They **POUND** on the glass and try to signal to the kids outside, but it's muffled.

MITCHELL
(muffled)
249 Help! 249

BECKY
(muffled)
250 They're going to destroy the world! 250

At hypersonic speed, the flying saucer and the entire armada
SHOOT OFF into the cosmos.

STEPHANIE
251 Like, what did they say? 251

BISHOP
252 I don't know, something about "joy
to every boy and girl," innit? 252

CROYDONIA
253 That's a lame thing to say when
you're being abducted. 253

They shrug and go about their business, as if everything's
just fine.

END OF ACT 2

ACT 3

22 **INT. FLYING SAUCER COCKPIT - DAY** 22

The Emperor's in front of the viewing screen - the windscreen
of the flying saucer - with the arc of the earth below. In
the background, we see Mitchell and Becky tied up with Gary
behind them. PAN TO a CLOSE-UP on Templeton's face.

TEMPLETON
254 If I had access to my emotions I
imagine this would be quite
magnificent. 254

A single tear slides down his face.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
255 Not as magnificent as you'll taste
with gravy and a dash of nutmeg. 255

Templeton's tear is reversed and sucked back into his eye.
TRACK AND ROTATE out of Templeton's close-up to reveal he's
upside down on a spit-roast above a grill.

TEMPLETON
(to Mitchell and Becky)
256 I'm starting to think maybe you're
right and they're up to something. 256

257	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR Silence! By talking, you're letting the flavour out!	257
258	MITCHELL (sarcastic) Yeah, that makes a lot of sense.	258
259	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR I'm starting to think your words of encouragement are not meant as encouragement.	259
260	MITCHELL (sarcastic) Uh, yeah?	260
261	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR Stop! How'd you like to be ejected into the void of space for all eternity?	261
262	MITCHELL Sounds like loads of fun.	262
263	TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR Then so be it. Gary? Eject those two humans from the airlock.	263
<p>Gary looms over Becky and Mitchell. His eye opens and glows, we hear a WHIRRING THERMINNY SOUND and Becky and Mitchell start sliding back towards the airlock, which is SLIDING OPEN. The whole time, they're being sucked back towards space:</p>		
264	MITCHELL Templeton! Help! My sarcasm's powerless against these aliens!	264
265	TEMPLETON Are you being sarcastic?	265
266	MITCHELL No.	266
267	TEMPLETON Was <i>that</i> sarcastic?	267
268	MITCHELL No!	268
269	TEMPLETON What about that?	269
270	BECKY Templeton! Just ignore Mitchell!	270

MITCHELL
(sarcastic)
271 Thanks! 271

BECKY
272 And listen: if you are the ultimate 272
master of the universe, now's the
time to make it count!

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
273 Don't listen to them! They don't 273
appreciate you. You're better off
with us - we're just like you.

TEMPLETON
274 Hmm. What you're saying makes 274
logical sense.

MITCHELL
275 Logical, but they're still going to 275
eat you!

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
276 Logical nonetheless. 276

Becky and Mitchell are practically out the airlock. They're
grabbing onto the door frames. They have to yell over the
WHOOSHING ROAR OF A SPACE VACUUM sucking them out.

BECKY
277 Templeton, sometimes the important 277
things don't have to make sense!

MITCHELL
278 I'm telling you this with every 278
unsarcastic bone of my body: I like
you!

On some deep level, this registers with Templeton. He rubs
his chin in thought.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
(getting desperate)
279 Ignore them! They don't make 279
sense! You need to be with your own
type! It's only logical! You're
just like us!

TEMPLETON
280 No... I'm not! 280

He whirls around to the Emperor.

TEMPLETON (CONT'D)
281 Because I have friends! 281
(to Gary)
282 Gary, as creator of the universe, I 282
order you to help my friends!

Gary slowly turns and his eye glows. The Airlock door begins to **CLOSE. TRIUMPHANT MUSIC.**

283 TEMPLETON (CONT'D)
 Hmm, what's that strange feeling I 283
 feel inside me?

284 BECKY
 It's friendship and warmth and love 284
 and emotion!

285 TEMPLETON
 (big burp)
 Yes, or it might just have been a 285
 spot of wind from all the
 excitement.

EXTREME CLOSE-UP ON THE EMPEROR

286 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
 I suppose you humans think you're 286
 clever now, don't you?

TRACK AND ROTATE out of the close-up to reveal the Emperor's now upside down on the spit-roast above the grill. Mitchell, Becky and Templeton are now at the controls of the saucer.

287 MITCHELL
 Smarter than you. 287
 (to Templeton)
288 Tems, are you sure you can fly 288
 this thing home?

289 TEMPLETON
 You believe in me, right? 289

290 BECKY
 Of course we do. 290

291 MITCHELL
 Sure, and I'm too worn out to be 291
 sarcastic.

292 TEMPLETON
 Very well, then. A spaceship's a 292
 spaceship, right? Computer, let's
 go home!

Becky and Mitchell shrug. Templeton hits a big button. There is a weird **UNEXPECTED DYING ENGINE SOUND** and suddenly the whole ship goes completely black.

293 TEMPLETON (V.O.)
 Er... I'm sure that's fine. 293

294 MITCHELL (V.O.)
 Yeah, nothing to worry about. 294

Then a **TREMENDOUS HORRIFIC RATTLING, SHAKING, BREAKING SOUND FOLLOWED BY A DISTURBING THWOOSHING SOUND!**

MITCHELL (V.O.)
295 Hey, there's my sarcasm back. 295

There is a moment of silence. Then the lights fade back up to reveal... The ship is ruined. Fittings **SPARK**. Red emergency lights flash. Our trio get off the floor. The Emperor gets up, too, having been thrown off the spit.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

296 What have you done?! 296

TEMPLETON

297 I think I broke it. 297

DIGITAL TEMPLETON

298 You are home and you are not home. 298
 You are here, there, everywhere and
 nowhere. You have reached your
 destination: the moment before the
 Big Bang.

They look out the window to utter darkness.

```

                                TEMPLETON
299      Oopsy-daisykins.                                299

```

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

300 Oopsy-daisykins?! That's what you say at the moment before the Big Bang? The explosion at the beginning of time that created everything? You've stranded us before time and space existed!

300

BECKY
301 It could be worse? 301

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

302 Worse?! We're stuck forever and 302
 forever hasn't been invented yet!

MITCHELL
303 Invented yet?!! 303
 (beat)

304 I just wanted to repeat things in a shocked manner like you. Sorry. 304

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

305 Bah, what does it matter now. 305
 Airlock, engage!

The airlock **OPENS**. We hear the **MIGHTY SUCKING OF THE NOTHINGNESS OUTSIDE**. Things begin to be sucked out of the ship. And then...

The potato in Templeton's pocket slips out...

TEMPLETON

306 My potato!!! 306

...and flies through the airlock. Followed by...

BECKY
307 Some cream! 307

MITCHELL
308 Spring onions! 308

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

309 And just a dash of pepper! 309

The ingredients gently spin in space before **A MONUMENTAL EXPLOSION** as the potato rips itself apart.

BECKY
310 My, that was a BIG BANG! 310

MITCHELL

311 Big Bang? Uh, Temps? I think you 311
just created the universe with a
potato?!

312 Cool! TEMPLETON 312

Just then, the **BLAST SHOCKWAVE** throws Templeton, Mitchell and Becky into the cryo-tubes and instantly freezes them.

TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR

313 The Big Bang? The creation of all things? Templeton was the supreme being after all! And I was just a hungry jerk!

313

As the ship spins uncontrollably. His narration continues over **CHEESY PLANETARIUM-STYLE MUSIC**:

TEMP-ALIEN EMPEROR (V.O.)
314 In the beginning Templeton created 314
all things. He held aloft the holy
potato and spake 'My potato!!' He
sprinkled the required ingredients
as specified in the recipe and
created the tasty dish known as...
The Universe....

The is a **MAGNIFICENT FLASH OF LIGHT.**

23 INT. PRE-HISTORIC CAVERN - NIGHT 23

A flicker of light from a tiny fire illuminates the Emperor's face as he finishes his tale.

He is narrating with a backdrop of the cave paintings - like a blackboard - to a non-speaking caveman (who looks remarkably like Tyson.)

315 TEMPLETON ALIEN EMPEROR
And thus the Universe was born. 315

316 TYSON CAVEMAN
Huh? Sorry. I wasn't listening. 316
Could you start over?

317 TEMPLETON EMPEROR
 (exasperated)
Earthlings!! 317

The Emperor stomps off and locks himself in the cockpit. The cave wall **SLIDES SHUT**.

24 **INT. ANCIENT SPACESHIP COCKPIT - DAY** 24

The clock on the cryo-tube spins - the equivalent of 14.7 Billion years - and the tube opens with an **ALARM CLOCK BELL**. With a **HISS** and belch of smoke our trio are revealed.

318 BECKY
Where are we?! 318

25 **EXT. PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS** 25

Our trio climb out of the hole behind them and look up.

319 MITCHELL
It's us?! 319

Our current trio watch as their other selves take off in the spaceship earlier in the episode.

320 BECKY
Beezers, what happened? 320

321 MITCHELL
I dunno, but we're home. 321

322 TEMPLETON
 (ultra-excited)
And I discovered aliens and went 322
into the Cosmos! Aw, but I didn't
find a Space Yeti.

323 BECKY
But you did create the universe 323
with a potato... not bad for a
science project!

324 MITCHELL
Everything's back to normal. 324

They walk by Gary, who's just standing there.

	MITCHELL (CONT'D)	
325	Well, normal enough.	325
	(to Gary)	
326	Hey, how'd you like to be a science project?	326

THEREMIN VERSION of the "Strange Hill High" Theme.

END OF EPISODE

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